

29 October 1956

Mr. John T. Campbell, Head  
BBC Monitoring Service  
Caversham Park  
Reading, Berks., England

Dear John:

Your letter of 19 October came as I was preparing to write you in anticipation of our next Coordination Committee meeting. I, too, have been tied down in many ways since Alan's departure, and hope to be a more frequent correspondent in the future.

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[ ] is on leave at present. When he returns next week I will instruct him to arrange to ship the four Collins receivers to you through [ ] I believe he had been expecting further word from Hill before taking action himself on this matter.

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We are not yet able to evaluate the results of our African Survey and have encountered some delays. [ ], as you may have heard, has been in the British Military Hospital in Cyprus with an infection which he undoubtedly picked up somewhere in his travels, and I do not know when he will be able to return to Washington. I hope at least by the time of our meeting to be able to tell you what our thinking is in connection with North African coverage although we will not have any confirmed plans at that time. [ ] preliminary reports indicate that overall reception of the area is best from the Balearic Islands. The whole question will, of course, require much further study and investigation after [ ] returns, and top level approval here before we can go ahead.

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We have received authorization to add two more positions to the Arabic monitoring staff at Kyrenia, making a total of four additions since my meeting with you at Caversham last March. We may be asking you for assistance in expediting the procurement for Kyrenia of Creed equipment for handling AHA when the latter converts to radioteletype. I understand that an order for such equipment would normally require seven months for delivery. It seems most unlikely that there would be this much advance notice of an AHA changeover. In the meantime, I have asked Andy to attempt to find out when this may happen.

I have suggested to Andy that she solicit your views on holding the semi-annual Kyrenia-Caversham coverage coordination meeting during the same week as our Joint FBIS-BBC Coordination Committee Meeting. This would have the advantage from our point of view of bringing [redacted] to London for consultation with me and would, I should think, facilitate our own discussions. If running the two meetings at once is impractical from your point of view, please let me know.

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Although I have no confirmed reservations yet, I am planning to arrive in London by air on Sunday 2 December and to leave for Washington on Saturday the 8th. I am trying to follow half way in your footsteps and return home by sea on the "United States" from Southampton. In any event I will spend the whole week in England.

Tom Weiss gave us glowing reports on the splendid cooperation your people have given our London Bureau in the matter of standardisation of techniques. We are most appreciative of the efforts the BBC staff have made in this direction.

Sincerely,

[redacted]  
Chief, FBIS

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cc: Chief, London Bureau, FBIS